LIMITED
WRD/MKG/INF/L.126
1 January 1964
ORIGINAL : FRENCH

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin

(Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Republic of Viet-Nam)

SURVEY OF THE POWER MARKET FOR DOMESTIC, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL USES IN THE LOWER MEKONG BASIN

QUARTERLY INTERIM REPORT No. 3

by

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Market Survey

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Preliminary Note on:

Current Energy Production and Consumption Situation in the Region of Phnom Penh

Antidipated Consumption Increase

1/ Already circulated as document WRD/MKG/INF/L.115 dated 30 September 1963

I - INTRODUCTION

The study of the energy market for domestic, industrial and commercial uses in the four countries constituting the Committee for Coordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin was provided for by Plan of Operation E/CN.11/WRD/MKG/L.69 Rev.2 of 31/10/62.

Operations began on 1 March 1963. They have been described for the period between 1 March 1963 and 31 August 1963 in quarterly report No. 1 and 2.

This report covers our activities between 1 September and 30 November 1963. It corresponds to the beginning of the second stage of the Mission's work.

II - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK ACCOMPLISHED

Our activities mainly included:

the processing of the data collected during the preliminary stage;

the assessing of these data and the finding of ways and means to check and complete them.

During this period an increased effort was made in connexion with Thailand and Viet-Nam.

The four countries are listed in alphabetical order.

/ CAMBODIA

CAMBODIA

Beginning early in October, high officials of the Kingdom were again contacted. The collection of statistical data proceeded as follows:

- detailed information on the breakdown of the population between the various activities branches;
- data on the added value of agriculture and of the secondary and tertiary sectors;
- data on the power consumption breakdown; on the licensees and small industries, as well as self-producers.

The high officials contacted were:

- Mr. Van Mollyvan, Minister of Public Works and Telecommunications;
- Mr. Phlek Chhat, Director General of the Development Plan;
- Mr. Chan Pech, Co-Director of the Project and Director of the C.E.E.;
- Mr. Tan Mob, Technical Director of Electricité du Cambodge as well as various heads of Departments of this organisation;
- Various heads of Department of the Direction de l'Agriculture.
- UN Representative Baron W. de Selys Longchamps
- Various heads of Department and experts, and especially
  - MM. Szimenowsky and Korencic. census experts,
  - MM. Di Meglio and Becquart, I.N.S.E.E. experts.

Population

The experts in charge of the census have practically completed the preliminary work, paving the way for the processing of the data yielded by the 1962 census; they will in a few weeks be in a position to give the experts of the Mission precise figures on the distribution of the population between the various activities sectors.

/ Agriculture

Agriculture

There are few new elements regarding the statistics of cultivated areas and crops for the last ten years.

The I.N.S.E.E. experts have been working for some months on the computation of the added value of agriculture from 1957 to 1963. The results of these studies should be available in a few weeks, thus making it possible to check the assumptions made in this connexion.

Power

Electricité du Cambodge

Electricité du Cambodge has hired a technician, more particularly responsible for the preparation of statistics. We may hope to get a rather detailed breakdown of energy consumption for 1963, and perhaps for some years before.

Self-producers and small industries

No progress whatever has been made. Relevant information will have to be obtained from the largest of these.

Self-producers

The investigation undertaken by the Direction du Service des Mines is not yet completed. Results should be available in a few weeks. A detailed study will then be undertaken.

Secondary and tertiary sectors

The processing, on the one hand of the results of the 1962 census, and on the other hand of the study made by the I.N.S.E.E. experts, will make it possible to have a clearer notion of these different sectors for 1962. However, the lack of data on the evolution of manpower in these sectors in the past will make it difficult to prepare estimations for the future.

Situation of the energy market in the region of Phnom Penh

In response to a request by Dr. Schaaf, Executive Agent of the Committee, a preliminary note was prepared in September 1963.

The text of this note appears in the Annex

LAOS

During the third quarter, the preliminary processing of the information previously gattered has begun. This information is very fragmentary and incomplete. A field investigation will have to be conducted during the month of January in order to collect further information and check on the accuracy of currently available data.

/ THAILANDE

THAILAND

During the last three months, compilation work has been practically completed as regards general data. Some of the points for which accurate vague data were lacking have been clarified.

Population

A fairly clear notion of the present and future situation could be developed. An average yearly increase rate of 2.85% per years has been determined.

Agriculture

Although data cannot as a rule be obtained prior to 1963, the picture of the past, present and future situation for cultivated areas, production, and the value of the crops is now fairly clear. As to irrigation, one would like to be acquainted with official forecasts beyond 1966 (termination of the Development Plan) concerning irrigated areas with breakdown between irrigation by pumping and gravity irrigation.

Mining - Industries - Construction

If the picture is now clear for mining, statistical data are still inadequate for industries and construction. An investigation on the situation of industry in Thailand should yield results in 1964. Before such a survey has been completed, it would be difficult to estimate the trend of production, of the number of industries, and of paid salaries.

Tertiary sector

The statistics that have been gathered give sufficient data on the past and probable future of the evolution of this sector.

/ Energy

Energy

A number of data have been collected on energy production and consumption. Further information has been brought up. It is now possible to have a comprehensive view of evolution since 1951 for Bangkok and the region, and unfortunately only since 1960 for the country. Further clarification is needed on the breakdown of consumption. Information will have to be gathered on the technical efficiency of the networks in the country and in Bangkok (lines, transformation stations, etc.)

To sum up the question, most of the necessary information has been gathered about general economic data, except for industry.

As regards energy, the basic data are fairly complete, but further technical data on current installations and equipment will still have to be sought.

/ VIET-NAM

VIET-NAM

During the month of October a more intensive study of statistical elements gathered during the last month was conducted.

This enabled us to find certain discrepancies or inadequacies. We therefore had to contact again some officials in order to clarify problems and gather further information. We also had interviews with:

- H.E. The Minister for Public Works;
- Mr. Dinh-Quang-Chieu, Director of Electricité du Viet-Nam and Co-Director of the project.
- Mr. Trinh-Ngoc-Sanh, Member of the Mekong Committee.
- Mr. Truong-Thanh-Xuan, Manager of the Danhim Works.
- Mr. Bui-Quang-Minh, Directeur of the Statistical Department.
- Mr. Baccot, Director of the C.E.E.
- Mr. Desrats, Associate Director of the S.I.P.E.A.
- Mr. Le-Khac-Hue, Head of the O.N.D.E.E.

In the course of these interviews, further information was requested. The shape in which this information should be submitted has been clarified. Most of the information requested should be forthcoming in the first half of December.

Population

Fairly comprehensive information is available for the last three or four years. On the other hand, estimates are fragmentary and incomplete as one goes further back. New contacts should be established with the Statistical department in order to get more definite information.

/ Agriculture

Agriculture - Fisheries - Forests

Existing statistics are fairly complete as regards agriculture and forestry. However, a number of data will have to be checked for cultivated areas and crops.

The data on the added value of this sector are definitely inadequate. Further research will be needed in this connection.

As regards fisheries, information is not very clear. Further investigations will have to be conducted.

Secondary and tertiary sectors

General information on these sectors is fairly extensive, but, owing to the variety of their origins, checking with the relevant services will be required.

Energy

Information available on electric consumptions is inidequate. Further data have been requested from the managers of the most important firms (C.E.E. - S.I.P.E.A. - O.N.D.E.D.). It is essential that the breakdown for this consumption during the previous years should be as detailed as possible. Much of this information should be available in December.

/ III

III - RATE OF PROGRESS OF THIS SURVEY AND GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

CAMBODIA

The rate of progress is about 45 %

LAOS

The rate of progress is about 25 %

THAILAND

The rate of progress is about 45 %

VIET-NAM

The rate of progress is about 28 %

During the last quarterly period, the efforts of the Mission concentrated chiefly on Thailand and Viet-Nam.

About as much headway has now been made in Cambodia and in Thailand. Activities in Viêt-Nam will reach the same point of completion during the next quarter.

Special attention will then be given to Laos after the visit which is to take place in mid-January.